

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1 – 5: Cancelled

6. (New) A driving axle for a vehicle that is driven by an electric motor, comprising:  
a driven motor shaft 12, wherein said electric motor 11 is disposed on said motor shaft;

drive shafts 14, 15 coupled to said motor shaft 12 via the interposition of a reduction transmission stage 13 and a following differential transmission, wherein said drive shafts 14, 15 are intended for wheels respectively disposed thereon;

an externally toothed sun pinion 19 that, as part of said reduction transmission stage 13, is disposed on said motor shaft 12, which is mounted in motor shaft bearings 25 that are connected to a gearbox 24 of said reduction transmission stage 13, wherein said motor shaft bearings 25 are embodied as bearings that absorb radial and axial forces;

a sleeve 26 that is disposed between said motor shaft bearings 25 and said sun pinion 19 and is supported on opposite sides against said motor shaft bearings and said sun pinion;

a securing means 28 disposed on a free end of said motor shaft 12 for fixing said sun pinion 19 against said sleeve 26; and

gears 20 of said reduction transmission stage 13 that mesh with said sun pinion 19, wherein said sun pinion and said gears 20 are embodied as helical gears having a force component that acts in the direction of said motor shaft bearings 25.

7. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said sun pinion 19 is

supported directly against said sleeve 26.

8. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein a spacer disk 27 is disposed between said sleeve 26 and said sun pinion 19.

9. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said securing means 28 fixes said sun pinion 19 against said sleeve 26 with bias.

10. (New) A driving axle according to claim 6, wherein said sun pinion 19 is disposed between said sleeve 26 and said securing means 28 with slight axial play.